113, 439, 648 Albania EG1

[For a discussion of the nature, scope and probable future trends (up to 1970) of Soviet economic relations with the East European satellites since World War II, and the degree of inter-satellite economic integration, see 60: Bergson, R1 Soviet Union, category 116, pp. 321-355]

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

Foreign Trade

DUE to the constant change of govern- 439 ●
ment that Albania was subjected to prior to 1925, the country had been unable to develop its natural resources and trade possibilities. However, since 1925, trade relations with foreign nations has received great impetus and has continued with even greater intensity.

In accordance with the figures of the official statistics for 1932, the total of Albanian imports amounted to 22,814,500 gold Francs and her total exports amounted to 4,500,360 gold Francs. The figures for 1933 are of necessity reduced for the imports because of the regrettable consequence of the world economic crisis, which, naturally, has affected Albania as well as other countries of the world. These figures being: Imports 15,938,221 gold Francs and 5,746,476 gold Francs for exports. For the year 1934 the figures are: Imports 12,-332,708 gold Francs and exports 4,284,331 gold Francs. For 1935 the imports amounted to 13,727,138 gold Francs and exports 6,037,-

439 478 gold Francs. In the first three months of 1936 the exports amounted to 1,575,803 gold Francs and imports reached the sum of 3,-574,540 gold Francs.

Albania being an essentially agricultural country, has also suffered from the world disaster in this field, and the blow to her in this connection has been a severe one, since 4/5 of her exports consist in farming products of the agricultural industries, such as: olives, olive oil, cheese, eggs, live-stock, wool, hides and skins, fruits of all kinds, vegetables, cereals, charcoal, bitumen, wood-pulp, various kinds of woods, lumber, et cetera.

One of the widest fields for imports at the present time is Albania. She has just begun in recent years to tap her own source of supply and is dependent to a great extent upon other countries for various products. It is expected that in the near future Albania will be enabled to develop her own great possibilities and consequently reduce her imports and increase her exports.

It is worthwhile to note that the number of nations with which Albania transacts business is constantly increasing. The principal imports of Albania are of a more constructive

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nature; some of which are technical and chemical products, textiles of all kinds, constructing materials, machineries and motors of all kinds, cement, hardware and cutlery, leather goods, rubber and rubber articles, paper and paper articles of all kinds, coffee, chocolate, tea, sugar, musical instruments, medicines, et cetera. Up until recent years it has also been necessary to import cereals for the years in which the crops have been unsuccessful, but these imports have now become superfluous since modernization of agricultural methods have recently caused greater strides towards progress. 439

The deficit in the balance of trade seems exceptionally heavy at first glance but it is naturally explained by the fact that most of the imported merchandise such as machinery, construction materials, et cetera, have been put to profit-bearing uses which are bound to increase, in due time, the productive possibilities of the country.

The following list is of the Albanian imports of a more specific nature: 3,864,327 kilos of sugar in 1935 as compared to 3,882,-046 kilos in 1934. There were 6,842,330 kilos of cement bought in 1935 while 11,717,440

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• 439 kilos were absorbed in 1934. Another item of great importance is benzine, of which 3,135,795 kilos were used in 1935 and 2,943,-690 kilos in 1934. Petroleum in 1935 found a market of 2,198,230 kilos compared to the 2,306,911 kilos in 1934—this product is slowly being excluded by the development of the plentiful native fields. 2,693,780 kilos of naphtha was imported in 1935 as contrasted with 1,991,414 kilos in 1934. Paper and paper articles of all kinds were absorbed to the amount of 1,136,689 kilos in 1935. Large quantities of chemicals and medicine were also imported.

Smaller items on the import list are: Beer, vegetable and mineral oils, cotton goods and textures, silk and artificial silk tissues, wool textures, biscuits of all kinds, meat extracts, sausages, sardines, 24,983 kilos of cacao and chocolate.

Coffee was imported from: England 882 kilos, United States of America 34,456 kilos, Egypt 9 kilos, Brazil 508,387 kilos, Italy 25 kilos and Austria 147 kilos in 1935. There were 5,433 kilos of tea imported in 1935. Also cognac, grains, shoes, leather goods, bicycles, motorcycles, automobiles, gramophones, ra-

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

dios, and numerous other articles. 439

Albanian exports in 1935 were lower than in some of the previous years and are as follows: Various kinds of live-stock, such as horses, colts, mares, mules, donkeys, oxen, cows, sheep, lambs, ewes, goats, pigs, et cetera; poultry; game meats; 1,200 kilos of butter; 817,080 kilos of cheese; 1,222,611 kilos of eggs; 322 kilos of honey; 380,861 kilos of fish; 2,629,767 kilos of fresh and salted olives; 1,314,750 kilos of marc d'olives; 56,000 kilos of cotton seeds; large quantities of tobacco and cigarettes; 1,232 kilos of olive oil; 83,168 kilos of new hides; 607,666 kilos of dry hides; 200 kilos of colored hides; 12,782 kilos of pelts of fox, otter, etc.; 1,700 kilos of horse hair; 4,467 kilos of fertilizer; 7,898 kilos of wax; 31,333 kilos of bones, horns and hoofs, and large quantities of soap.

Among the cereals were 835,580 kilos of wheat; 865 kilos of rye; 11,941,683 kilos of maize; 53,654 kilos of barley; 50,640 kilos of oats; 1,808,224 kilos of hay; 9,527 kilos of special citrus fruits; 17,880 kilos of ordinary citrus fruits; 29,199 kilos of nuts; 1,210,510 kilos of haricots; onions; potatoes; starch, and sausage casings.

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439 Other exports of interest are 1,358,706 kilos of firewood; 757,045 kilos of ebony; 319,000 kilos of malaca; 240 kilos of works of malaca; 18,285 kilos of cotton; 400,313 kilos of wool; 2,329,425 kilos of charcoal; 6,784,383 kilos of bitumen; 574 kilos of oak-wood and 4,194,764 kilos of crude petroleum.

And the articles of needlecraft, the laces and tapestries of Albania hold a very high place. In this diligent country the women spend much spare time over these exquisite additions to the feminine toilet and household decorations. These bits of art may not be widely known as yet, but where their markets have already been established there is the greatest demand for these; also the products of the silver- and goldsmiths and pottery makers, which are a symphony in precious medals and clay, have found an eager market.

The lists which follow are from the official statistical records of the principal exports and imports of Albania for the last nine years (1927-1935).

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Exports and Imports

Covering the Period from 1927 to 1936

Year	Imports Gold Francs	Exports Gold Francs
1927	24,681,888	11,106,901
1928	32,311,583	14,694,203
1929	38,643,900	14,682,603
1930	33,288,900	12,352,063
1931	29,513,300	7,509,000
1932	22,814,500	4,500,360
1933	15,938,221	5,746,476
1934	12,332,708	4,284,331
1935	13,730,138	6,037,478

For the first three months of 1936 the imports amounted to 3,574,540 gold Francs and the exports reached the figure of 1,575,803 gold Francs.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS WITH SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL STATES FOR 1935

Country	Imports Gold Francs	Exports Gold Francs
Belgium	457,219	9,551
Brazil	317,187	
Czechoslovakia	948,431	52,039
Egypt	181,298	9,608
France	385,210	79,246
Germany	1,114,493	560
Great Britain	1,344,524	22,306
Greece	581,913	1,241,482
India	101,404	

ALBANIA YESTERDAY AND TODAY

•439 Italy	3,905,374	3,686,743
Japan	1,583,801	
United States	550,346	865,391
Yugoslavia	617,154	78,349

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS WITH SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL STATES FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1936

Country	Imports Gold Francs	Exports Gold Francs
Austria	120,483	2,636
Belgium	198,959	
Czechoslovakia	255,796	6,734
Egypt	45,264	3,104
France	138,363	9,348
Germany	313,574	120
Great Britain	357,563	17,148
Greece	242,962	134,193
Hungary	72,083	
Italy	904,192	1,223,364
Japan	401,844	
Switzerland	16,208	2,575
United States	202,009	162,025
Yugoslavia	120,311	14,556
Other countries	184,929	
Total	3,574,540	1,575,803

Principal Albanian Exports

With Quantities For Period 1928-1935

ARTICLES	QUANTITY	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Live Animals	Pieces	110,025	114,239	60,110	22,839	11,574	4,707	48,542	25,700
Cheese	Kilos	1,498,797	1,433,009	1,435,087	730,669	738,645	523,026	412,126	817,080
Eggs	Kilos	1,191,432	1,154,522	1,475,915	1,479,927	639,219	582,013	933,235	1,159,601
Fish	Kilos	279,695	188,293	353,950	476,030	507,858	523,751	531,415	380,604
Olives	Kilos	3,262,926	2,217,261	981,042	4,372,883	3,388,655	11,284,061	1,112,571	2,629,767
Olive oil	Kilos	828,402	1,697,685	1,415,501	47,489	4,632	17,145	2,748	1,247
Tobacco and Cigarettes	Kilos	72,425	40,751	95,501	305,191	23,377	55,455	63,025	140,725
Hides and Skins	Kilos	1,047,731	865,415	763,918	435,783	372,021	849,627	668,162	691,900
Wool	Kilos	474,203	634,880	480,079	396,747	289,100	324,851	364,600	468,369
Charcoal	Kilos	9,636,308	9,812,900	5,695,989	3,585,730	2,899,450	735,222	665,197	2,329,425
Bitumen	Kilos	3,232,355	4,425,984	4,334,853	3,163,259	4,358,650	7,352,718	6,490,012	6,178,783
Timber and Woodpulp	Kilos	10,296,404	10,666,207	8,545,928	2,484,510	4,197,925	4,570,582	4,036,258	2,115,811

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Principal Imports

With Quantities For Period 1928-1935

ARTICLES	QUANTITY	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Rice	Kilos	2,808,147	3,164,954	2,887,567	3,440,355	3,164,505	1,756,326	2,587,639	2,805,731
Coffee	Kilos	497,365	625,052	640,111	639,887	609,327	602,295	507,289	543,734
Sugar	Kilos	5,247,294	4,819,389	5,509,372	5,356,629	4,720,541	4,350,151	3,882,046	3,864,327
Beer	Kilos	415,080	470,153	531,333	616,189	546,292	302,254	83,091	106,730
Hides and Skins	Kilos	207,019	231,413	258,540	211,105	150,926	228,137	206,046	238,060
Textile Products	Kgr.	1,224,202	134,435	1,429,471	1,258,661	1,186,613	1,365,606	1,556,441	1,933,615
Cement	Kgr.	12,404,280	22,728,115	22,481,150	26,547,740	23,079,520	13,508,917	11,717,440	6,842,330
Industrial Machines	Kgr.	734,421	1,177,582	715,975	867,659	541,603	215,869	98,768	448,793
Agricultural Machines	Kgr.	89,184	182,286	153,478	210,140	71,551	93,797	37,409	78,342
Automobiles	Pieces	200	413	283	276	163	123	75	91
Benzine	Kgr.	2,587,796	2,925,386	3,581,471	3,290,186	3,133,266	3,880,086	2,943,690	3,135,795
Petroleum	Kgr.	4,119,202	3,338,816	2,510,918	2,321,019	2,091,780	2,393,735	2,306,911	2,198,230
Naphtha and Gasoline	Kgr.	928,030	1,289,129	1,229,038	947,780	1,961,265	2,193,369	1,991,414	2,693,780

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Imports from the Principal Countries

(In Gold Francs)

1928-1935

COUNTRY	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Italy	15,623,810	17,840,100	16,707,000	13,839,500	8,918,800	6,675,655	4,203,080	3,905,374
Great Britain	2,062,426	2,694,200	2,464,600	1,770,900	1,586,200	1,438,222	1,134,154	1,344,524
Czechoslovakia	2,386,967	2,414,700	2,430,400	1,982,000	1,766,900	1,078,134	679,320	948,431
United States	2,651,053	3,919,500	2,416,500	2,803,600	2,215,700	1,012,842	705,281	550,346
Japan	———	6,700	32,000	115,500	290,000	984,431	1,442,825	1,583,801
Germany	1,388,420	1,892,700	1,891,100	1,325,300	1,113,200	973,013	640,837	1,114,493
Yugoslavia	1,828,815	3,061,400	2,554,100	2,733,300	2,063,000	967,817	826,636	617,154
Greece	1,878,495	1,598,500	1,186,200	1,076,200	644,900	823,150	633,882	581,913
France	660,407	788,200	947,500	672,000	436,800	509,910	362,264	385,210
Austria	926,997	1,079,300	1,120,400	951,400	667,300	434,298	429,468	522,093
Belgium	422,221	796,600	695,800	600,100	374,700	380,655	409,596	457,219
Hungary	88,745	167,100	310,300	430,400	255,000	249,750	392,169	318,236
Holland	42,872	31,460	63,000	40,500	48,100	67,775	61,184	71,415
Egypt	1,125,775	2,015,400	111,000	110,000	35,300	60,382	85,755	181,298
Switzerland	96,809	30,800	152,000	116,100	77,800	57,750	45,955	95,333
Sweden	62,725	52,090	16,000	11,500	10,400	32,929	27,827	19,117
Turkey	68,486	47,590	82,000	131,400	53,300	19,242	11,863	9,861
Rumania	743,059	67,390	27,000	117,300	1,030,800	2,946	3,236	564,153
Bulgaria	60,339	12,200	12,000	224,600	862,200	2,035	4,123	3,525
Other Countries	193,162	127,970	160,000	461,700	364,200	167,285	233,251	456,642
Total	32,311,583	38,643,900	33,288,900	29,513,300	22,814,500	15,938,221	12,332,708	13,730,138

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POSTSCRIPT

flourish. The southern plains, before the war, exported fine horses in considerable numbers. Properly developed, Albania would be a rich agricultural country, even without the fertile valleys of Kossova and Epirus.

The mineral resources of Albania are unknown. During the Austrian occupation, a survey was made, looking toward the development of copper mines during the war; the results of the survey have vanished into the archives of the Austrian War Department. However, even the untrained eye perceives that there are copper and lead in the mountains. English mining engineers have told me that there are probably also silver and gold. I have seen veins of coal projecting on mountain sides; the mountaineers chip it off with hatchets or pry it loose with levers, and use it as fuel to a small extent. There are millions of feet of pine, oak, birch, and beech timber; unlimited water power. There are oil fields near Valona; producing oil wells were sunk, and later destroyed, by the Italians. Valona's military importance is not the only reason that Albanians are not left in peace.

There is also the political background. For twenty centuries the Albanians have been a beleaguered remnant of the first Aryan race in Europe. By character, temperament, and choice they belong with the peoples of the west, not with their Slav neighbors in the Balkans. But they have had no friends, either in west or east; their whole history has been a struggle for existence.

[Constitution]

642 All activities of the administrative organs of the state and courts must be based on law.

TITLE II
Social and Economic Measures

ARTICLE 5

471 In the People's Republic of Albania the means of production comprises all the wealth of the people owned by the state, the cooperative organizations of the people, and private individuals whether real or legal entities.

The wealth of the people includes mines and all other sub-surface resources, as well as waterways, natural wealth, forests, pasture land, airways, postal service, telegraph, telephone, radio stations, and banks.

• [439] Foreign trade is under the control of the state.

ARTICLE 6

185 In order to protect the vital interests of the people and to improve the standard of living and in order to exploit all the economical forces the state undertakes to direct the economic life and development by an overall planned economy. The state, by controlling its economy and the cooperatives, exercises a general control over private economy as well.

[575] The state, in order to carry out the general economic plan, relies on the trade unions of the working men and civil servants, the cooperatives of the peasants, and other organizations of the laboring masses.

ARTICLE 7

471 The state regulates and directs by law the use of the collective wealth of the people. The collective wealth of the people is especially favored by the state.

ARTICLE 8

474 The state is especially interested in the cooperative movement of the people which it favors and assists.

ARTICLE 9

421 Private property and private initiative are guaranteed
[428] by the state. Private inheritance is guaranteed. Nobody may use private property to the detriment of the public.

326 make all of these implements out of trade iron, it is unlikely that the rural smiths, like the one measured in Mirdita, do much more than horseshoeing. No one in Albania can make steel implements. Not only the material, but the finished implements themselves, must be imported, and hence they are expensive. That is why saws and augers are scarce in the mountains, where almost the only steel tools seen are files, useful for sharpening iron tools and for woodworking.

322 This explains the primitive nature of Gheg woodworking. Most wooden objects which require special tools or skills are bought in the market towns. Here 3 kinds of woodworking specialists carry on their crafts: the coopers, turners, and joiners. The coopers make tubs and buckets for kitchen use, including churns, butter firkins, and casks for storing grain. The material of which these are made is pear wood. The turner cuts out on his lathe various parts for looms, to be set up later; bobbins, spools, reelers, winders, and spool frames. The joiners provide the mountaineers with solid, ornately decorated chests of pine wood, as well as cradles in which to carry their babies, of which more later.

The Gheg at home in his mountains is a jack-of-all-trades. He may not be able to manufacture the special objects listed above, but he can adze out beams for his house, put together a new plough during the winter months when there is little work out of doors, or build one of his massive chairs. Professional carpenters are rare, although some men may show more skill in this than others.

372 In Ghegnia, as in most of the primitive world known to anthropologists, it is the custom not to let fires go out, for it is hard to start a new one. Sometimes a householder will walk several miles to borrow a glowing coal from a neighbor. In 1929 and 1930 most of the Ghegs were making fire with flint and steel or with old-fashioned dry-wick lighters. They did this slyly, and in my presence only when they could not borrow a match from me. King Zog had sold the match monopoly to the Swedish match trust, which had promptly set a price of 5 cents a box on penny matches. The king had at the same time prohibited the use of flint

11: Start E-4 (no date) 1939 EF1 Yugoslavia EF1
Albania E61
Balkan Peoples E13
Serbs EF6

Its present frontier was first decided by the Council of Ambassadors in 1913, but was held in suspense until 1921 when the Supreme Council sanctioned it.

The population of Albania is 68% Moslem, 21% Eastern Orthodox and 11% Roman Catholic.

Realising that the Balkan Peninsula has been disputed territory for centuries, with sovereignty alternating between Byzantines, Venetians, Slavs, Huns, Magyars, Turks and Austrians, it is not surprising that the different types of costume and decoration have intermingled, and so a difficult problem is presented when one has to deal with such a collection as this.

However, it has seemed best to divide the material into that from (1) the central and coastal area, which shows mainly Austrian and Italian influence, and (2) the southern section, with Albania, which was so largely influenced by Turkish rule, and where at the present time there are perhaps more Turkish costumes worn than in Turkey itself.

CHAPTER II.

Materials and their production.

The materials used in making and decorating the garments worn in the central, coastal and southern parts of Yugoslavia and Albania fall into two categories, home-produced, and those purchased in shops and markets, which are often imported goods.

The materials used in the south and Albania differ somewhat from those used in the other areas. The latter are dealt with first.

Cloths.

Materials upon which embroidery is to be worked are usually made by the women themselves and are of two kinds, that made from flax and hemp, woven into linen (" platno ") which is used for shirts, skirts for summer wear and headshawls or kerchiefs; and "sukno", made entirely of sheep's wool, hand spun and woven in the home on a simple, rather clumsy type of hand-loom. " The woollen material thus produced is used for the sleeveless wrap 'zubun', the short cloth coat with sleeves worn by younger women, and the long cloth coat worn in winter by women of all ages and districts."* "The peasant men throughout Yugoslavia wear garments of this woollen material " (M.E.D.).

That most important feature of most costumes, the apron, has homespun hemp for its warps and woollen yarn for weft. " Some of the thick woollen stuff, white in Albania and brown amongst the Serbs, of which men's clothes were made was beaten to a thick, hard felt in fulling mills worked by water power. Heavy hammers of walnut wood hammered the stuff for forty hours." (M.E.D.).

Imported cloths include calico for shirts and printed cotton for linings, apparently English, fine woollen cloth from Austria and Italy for the jelek worn by middle-class women and also for some of the handsomer types of coats.

* Milan Karanovic. " Costume of the Women of Zmiyagne " Sarajevo, 1928.

11:Start E-4 (no date) 1939 EF1 Yugoslavia EF1
Albania EG1
Serbs EF6
Bulgaria EE1
Contemporary Macedonians EE1

A Y
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Other alien materials are small pieces of dyed cloth, silk ribbons, silver and gold braids and manufactured lace, often used on the sleeve edges of shirts. These materials were bought in the village shops and markets, and appear to be largely of Austrian and Italian origin; under Turkish rule they were sold in the villages by pedlars.

A Y
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In the South and Albania, where Turkish influence is greater, there is a tendency, especially amongst the women of the towns, to wear garments made from more sumptuous materials so that, in addition to the hand-woven linens, extremely fine muslins of native make are used for shirts and aprons, and silken materials of beautiful quality for girdles, sleeves and the Moslem type of women's trousers. Fine woollen cloth from Austria and Italy is also imported for the making of jeleks, giubbas and japangi, and some of the nets used for the large embroidered veils worn by many women, both Catholic and Moslem, are of foreign origin.

Materials used for Embroidery and other Decorative Purposes.

M S
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These also fall into two classes, home-made and purchased.

The fine wools, used largely in Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Macedonia, for the decorative embroidery of oshvitza, sleeves, woollen coats, aprons and the making of fringes are spun and dyed by the women themselves. Dark brown and black goat's hair is also used in the apron fringes. "Goat's hair was extensively used in the Balkans for weaving market bags, saddle-bags and floor mats in stripes. The goats, clipped in uneven ridges, looked very ridiculous." (M.E.D.).

Ribbons, gold and silver braid and strips of coloured cloth were purchased and used as appliqué on skirts, head dresses, aprons and caps. In older and finer examples of embroidery, silk was used, and was locally produced and dyed.

B A
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In Albania and the south silk is the usual medium for embroidery, which decorates shirts, muslin aprons and japangi, although on some head scarves from Zadrima and the Bulgarian woman's costume from Monastir, which are decorated in the well-known Turkey red, the material used is cotton or very tightly twisted wool almost like a fine cord. Both silk, woollen and cotton threads are of home production. Amongst the photographs given by Miss Durham is one of a Moslem man spinning silk on a roadside on the outskirts of Scutari (Skodar). Gold thread is much used, and strips of beaten silver and brass are worked into the headings of braids.

A
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Braiding and cording are amongst the other important forms of decoration, narrow braids and ends of wool, silk and gold thread being hand plaited and twisted. Coats of the sleeveless type, both for men and women, the short jelek, the three-quarter length giubba, and the men's full trousers (Plate V, "*1*") are often decorated with cords and braids sewn down in beautiful curved designs. The "elaborate embroideries on the japangi and the handsome braided designs are usually the work of men Albanian tailors". (M.E.D.).

A Y
294 386

Until in recent years foreign dyes, imported in small packets, were sold in the shops the women themselves dyed their materials. Most of the examples in this collection have been so coloured with vegetable dyes; black being obtained from ash bark (*Fraxinus excelsis*); green from flowering rush with the addition of copper sulphate which was got from the shops; yellow from sumach (*Rhus cotinus*); red